

side of the wing so merged with the leaves as to make the butterfly almost invisible. Here the insect remained, motionless on the hot days, but as the wind moved the leaves of the Clematis on the cold windy days it also moved the wings of the butterfly in unison with the leaves, thus completing the camouflage.

I was beginning to wonder what would happen when the leaves of the Clematis were shed, but on 20th September, a very hot day, I was fortunate enough to be in the garden and observe the Brimstone crawl out into the sunshine, bask on a leaf for a few minutes and then fly off to the north.

The butterfly returned to its basking position several times before flying off completely. — BRYAN W. MOORE, Church Cottage, Batheaston, Bath, Somerset.

SELATOSOMUS BIPUSTULATUS (LINNAEUS) (COL., ELATERIDAE) IN WILTSHIRE AND SUFFOLK. — This handsome Elaterid appears to be rarely encountered and then usually as single specimens.

The only Wiltsire record of which I am aware is for the northern vice-county and precise details are not provided (1938, *Marlborough College Nat. Hist. Soc. Report No. 87 — Hand-list of the Col. of the Marlborough District — 10 miles radius*). The collectors who supplied the majority of records for this list were E. Meyrick and A. G. Jebb. Some records were provided by Janson but he did not take this species. I took a single example from under the back of a dead, fallen hawthorn branch in the middle of Langley Wood near Redlynch (SU 2220) on April 4th 1974. A specimen of the Anthribid *Choragus sheppardi* Kirby emerged a short while later from a piece of the branch which had been retained.

Claude Morley, 1899 (*Col. of Suffolk*, p.69) recorded *S. bipustulatus* from Bungay (Garneys) and from Battisford (in coll. Baker). I know of no other Suffolk specimens. I swept a single example in Shrubland Park, Barham (TM 1252) from long grass growing under mature pines, and oaks with dead lower branches. The latter were almost certainly the breeding site of the beetle.

I thank Mr. N. Anderson and Lord de Saumarez for allowing me to collect on their respective estates at Redlynch and Barham. — D. R. NASH, 266 Colchester Road, Lawford, Essex, CO11 2BU.

NOTABLE MOTH SPECIES AT ASHURST, HAMPSHIRE, IN 1978. — The following species of Macrolepidoptera were recorded by M.V. trap in my garden at Ashurst, Hampshire (map ref: SU 344115) in 1978, not having been recorded in 1976 or 1977. Numbers of individuals are in brackets. *Macrothylacia rubi* L. (2), *Scopula floslactata* Haw. (2), *Rhodometra sacraria* L. (2), *Orthonama vittata* Borkh. (1), *Eulithis prunata* L. (2), *Hydriomena ruberata* Freyer (2), *Eupithecia linariata* D. & S. (1), *E. succenturiata* L. (1), *E. simplicata* Haw. (2), *E. fraxinata* Crewe (1), *Lobophora halterata* Hufn. (5), *Acasis viretata* Hubn. (4), *Selidosema brunnearia* Vill. (3), *Cleora cinctaria* D. & S. (4), *Boarmia roboraria* D. & S. (5), *Lomo-*

*grapha bimaculata* Fab. (2), *Clostera pigra* Hufn. (1), *Dasychira fascelina* L. (2), *Leucoma salicis* L. (2), *Eilema sororcula* Hufn. (1), *Diacrisia sannio* L. (1), *Mythimna unipuncta* Haw. (6), *M. obsoleta* Hubn. (2), *Xanthia gilvago* D. & S. (1), *Ipimorpha subtusa* D. & S. (1), *Apamea unanimis* Hubn. (1), *Arenostola phragmitidis* Hubn. (1), *Chilodes maritima* Taus. (1), *Nycteola revayana* Scop. (3), *Autographa pulchrina* Haw. (3), *Parascotia fuliginaria* L. (3).

The following were among the less common species found at this site in 1978, although they were also found here in 1976 and/or 1977. *Trichiura crataegi* L. (3), *Drepana cultraria* Fab. (4), *Idaea sylvestriaria* Hubn. (1), *I. emarginata* L. (1), *I. straminata* Borkh. (3), *Orthonama obstipata* Fab. (3), *Epirrhoe rivata* Hubn. (1), *Euphyia unangulata* Haw. (3), *Eupithecia intricata* Zett. (20), *E. phoeniceata* Rambur (1), *Ennomos quercinaria* Hufn. (2), *Apocheima hispidaria* D. & S. (26), *Odontosia carmelita* Esp. (4), *Thumata senex* Hubn. (1), *Eilema deplana* Esp. (1), *Mythimna pudorina* D. & S. (1), *M. straminea* Treits. (4), *Cucullia asteris* D. & S. (1), *Aprorophyla lutulenta* D. & S. (20), *Lithophane semibrunnea* Haw. (2), *L. socia* Hufn. (2), *L. ornitopus* Hufn. (22), *L. leautieri* Bois. (109), *Conistra rubiginea* D. & S. (1), *Xanthia citrigo* L. (1), *Cosmia pyralina* D. & S. (14), *Apamea scolopacina* Esp. (10), *Stilbia anomala* Haw. (1).

Thanks are due to Col. D. H. Sterling and Mr. A. H. Dobson for confirming the identities of the rarer species — Dr. J. C. A. CRAIK, 48 Whartons Lane, Ashurst, Hampshire.

ARE AMATHES AGATHINA DUP. AND RHYACIA SIMULANS HUFN. IMMIGRANT SPECIES?—With reference to Dr. de Worms note (1978, *Ent. Rec.*, 90: 337) on *Amathes agathina* Dup. at Woking, Surrey, I was also agreeably surprised to find a single specimen in the trap at Caversham, Reading on the morning of 8th September 1978. The nearest extensive heathland is at Burghfield, 10 miles south of Caversham, where R. D. Sitwell took the species at heather bloom in 1906 and 1907. These specimens are in his collection at Reading Museum and are the only Berkshire records known to me excepting one at Aldermaston in 1977 and one from a heath north of Newbury in 1978. The Caversham specimen is greyer than those I have taken in Hampshire and Dorset and one is tempted to suggest that it, and Dr. de Worms' specimen are immigrants. It is conceivable that other *agathina* arriving over this period could have been overlooked by making landfall in areas of southern England where the species is not considered uncommon. If not immigrants there must have been a widespread movement of resident populations taking place, but it is interesting to note that at this same time the first confirmed Kentish record for *Rhyacia simulans* Hufn. occurred and other specimens were recorded in Essex as our Editor has indicated.

I discussed these records of *agathina* and *simulans* with Peter Davey of the Met. Office at Bracknell who kindly looked through all the weather maps for the period 17th July to 30th